IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re Application of

Shinpei OKAJIMA

Serial No.: 10/631,863

Filed: August 1, 2003

For: BICYCLE RIM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant brings the attached references to the Examiner's attention and requests that they be considered and made of record in this application. Also attached is a completed PTO-1449 form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application. Thus, no fee is believed to be due for this Information Disclosure

Statement. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

European Patent Publication No. EP 0 714 791 discloses a rim body (2) with several spaced coaxial holes (210) for the passage of spokes (82). The rim has guides (9) housed inside the casing that are held axially before mounting the spokes by lugs (93). An English abstract is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

European Patent Publication No. EP 0 715 001 discloses a process comprising bending an aluminum alloy profile produced by drawing or extrusion, followed by a chemical treatment stage which includes removing metal from the rim (2) by immersing it in a bath (52) of an aggressive chemical liquid (51). This is followed by rinsing in a second bath (54) containing a rinsing liquid (53) then neutralizing in a third bath (56) followed by a second rinsing stage in another rinsing bath (58). An English abstract is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

-- Serial No.: 10/631,863 Filed: August 1, 2003

Japanese Patent Publication No.7-501022 discloses a rim (1) with a plurality of nipple holes (2), each nipple hole (2) engaged by a nipple (3). The nipples (3) have an inner thread (4) and a spot for applying a torque that allows the nipple to be turned in order to adjust the individual prestress of each spoke (6). In order to allow the spokes (6) to be exchanged without dismounting the tire, the nipple (3) is supported on the rim (1) by a further thread coupling (8/9). An English abstract of International Patent No. WO 93/09963, which is an equivalent of this Japanese patent publication, is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

* * *

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick A. Hilsmier Reg. No. 46,034

SHINJYU GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP 1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20036 (202)-293-0444

Dated: October 22, 2003

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Attorney Docket Number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO NFORMATION DISCLOSURE Complete if Known 10/631,863 **Application Number** 08/01/03 Filing Date Shinpei OKAJIMA First Named Inventor **Group Art Unit** (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name**

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.	U.S. Patent D	ocument Kind Code	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY		
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of	Date of Publication	Translation
		Office Number		Kind Code (if known)	Cited Document	of Cited Document MM-YYYY	(Yes or No or N/A)
		EP	0714791	A1	Mercat et al.	06-1996	No
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.